

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Carl V. Manion

For: **VISCOSITY MODULATING SUBSTANCE  
AND USE THEREOF**

Application Serial No. Unassigned

Filing Date: Concurrently herewith


International  
Application No.: PCT/US00/25874International  
Filing Date: 21 September 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Box PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL861131885US DATE OF DEPOSIT 20 March 2002  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States  
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Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 20 March 2002  
(Date of Deposit)

Derrick Gordon  
Name of DepositorSignature  
Date of Signature: 20 March 2002

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with the 35 U.S.C. §371 national stage filing of International Application No. PCT/US00/25874. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(3), this document implements changes to the claims by presenting an entire set of pending claims. An Appendix entitled Version With Markings to Show Changes Made is attached showing the current amendments to the claims in marked form. Any claim not accompanied by a marked up version should be construed as not having been changed relative to the immediate prior version thereof, if any. *(should have identifiers)*

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please replace the previous version of the claims with the following clean version, wherein Claims 1-2 have been deleted, Claims 5 and 14 have been amended, and new Claims 15-16 have been added.